What is claimed is:

- 1. An improved antisense oligonucleotide, the improvement comprising the presence of one or more POPS block.
- 2. The improved antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide is a hybrid oligonucleotide.
- 3. The improved antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide is an inverted hybrid oligonucleotide.

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